

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
 - 2 embedding one or more validation keys in a data stream;
 - 3 receiving a request for the data stream from a client; and
 - 4 sending the data stream to a client.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1, comprising:
 - 2 mapping the data stream to a uniform resource locator (URL); and
 - 3 generating the one or more validation keys as a function of the URL.

- 1 3. The method of claim 1, comprising sending the one or more validation keys to
2 the client.

- 1 4. A method comprising:
 - 2 requesting a data stream by a client from a server;
 - 3 receiving a data stream by the client; and
 - 4 sampling the data stream received by the client to detect one or more validation
5 keys.

- 1 5. The method of claim 4, comprising generating an error message if the one or
2 more validation keys are not detected.

- 1 6. The method of claim 4, comprising communicating an error message to the
2 server from the client if the one or more validation keys are not detected.

1 7. The method of claim 4, comprising communicating a valid status message to the
2 server from the client if the one or more validation keys are detected.

1 8. A method comprising:
2 embedding one or more validation keys in a data stream at a server;
3 requesting the data stream from the server by a client;
4 sending the data stream from the server to the client;
5 receiving the data stream by the client; and
6 sampling the data stream to detect the one or more validation keys.

1 9. The method of claim 8, comprising:
2 mapping the data stream to a uniform resource locator (URL); and
3 generating the one or more validation keys as a function of the URL.

1 10. The method of claim 8, comprising obtaining the one or more validation keys
2 by the client prior to or while receiving the data stream.

1 11. The method of claim 8, comprising obtaining the one or more validation keys
2 by the client in a formatted electronic mail message.

1 12. The method of claim 10, wherein obtaining the one or more validation keys by
2 the client comprises:
3 receiving the one or more validation keys through a first connection between the
4 server and the client; and

5 receiving the data stream through a second connection between the server and
6 the client.

1 13. The method of claim 9, comprising generating the one or more validation keys
2 as a function of the URL by the client.

1 14. The method of claim 8, comprising:
2 communicating a valid status message from the client to the server if a
3 predetermined number of the one or more validation keys are detected; and
4 generating an error message at the server if the valid status message is not
5 received in a predetermined amount of time.

1 15. An apparatus comprising:
2 a processor;
3 a memory coupled to the processor having stored therein a set of instructions to
4 cause the processor to embed one or more validation keys in a data stream, to receive a
5 request for the data stream from a client, and to send the data stream to the client.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the set of instructions comprises instructions
2 to cause the processor to map the data stream to a uniform resource locator (URL) and
3 to generate the one or more validation keys as a function of the URL.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the set of instructions comprises instructions
2 to cause said processor to send the one or more validation keys to the client.

1 18. An apparatus comprising:
2 a processor;
3 a memory coupled to said processor having stored therein a set of instructions to
4 cause said processor to request a data stream from a server, to receive a data stream,
5 and to sample the received data stream to detect one or more validation keys.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the set of instructions comprises instructions
2 to generate an error message if a predetermined number of the one or more validation
3 keys are not detected.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the set of instructions comprises instructions
2 to communicate an error message to the server if a predetermined number of the one or
3 more validation keys are not detected.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the set of instructions comprises instructions
2 to communicate a valid status message to the server if a predetermined number of the
3 one or more validation keys are detected.

1 22. A system comprising:
2 a server comprising:
3 a first processor;
4 a first memory coupled to the first processor having stored therein a first
5 set of instructions to cause the first processor to embed one or more validation

6 keys in a data stream, to receive a request for the data stream from a client, and
7 to send the data stream to the client; and

8 a client comprising:

9 a second processor;

10 a second memory coupled to the second processor having stored therein
11 a second set of instructions to cause the second processor to request the data stream
12 from the server, receive the data stream, and sample the data stream to detect the one or
13 more validation keys.

1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the first set of instructions comprises
2 instructions to map the data stream to a uniform resource locator (URL) and to generate
3 the one or more validation keys as a function of the URL.

1 24. The system of claim 22, wherein:

2 the first set of instructions comprises instructions to send the one or more
3 validation keys to the client through a first connection between the server and the
4 client, and to send the data stream to the client through a second connection between
5 the server and the client; and

6 the second set of instructions comprises instructions to receive the one or more
7 validation keys through the first connection and to receive the data stream through the
8 second connection.

1 25. The system of claim 22, wherein the second set of instructions comprises
2 instructions to receive the one or more validation keys in a formatted electronic mail
3 message.

- 1 26. The system of claim 23, wherein the second set of instructions comprises
- 2 instructions to store the one or more validation keys and the URL in a database.

- 1 27. The system of claim 22, wherein the second set of instructions comprises
- 2 instructions to generate the one or more validation keys as a function of the URL.

- 1 28. A machine readable medium having stored therein a plurality of machine
- 2 readable instructions for execution by a processor, the machine readable instructions
- 3 to:
 - 4 embed one or more validation keys in a data stream;
 - 5 receive a request for the data stream by a client; and
 - 6 send the data stream to the client.

- 1 29. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein the machine readable
- 2 instructions comprise instructions to map the data stream to a uniform resource locator
- 3 (URL) and to generate the set of validation keys as a function of the URL.

- 1 30. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein the machine readable
- 2 instructions comprise instructions to send the one or more validation keys to the client.